

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 23, 2004. Claims 1 to 20 and 22 to 29 are in the application, with Claim 21 having been cancelled, and Claims 24 to 29 having been newly-added. Claims 1, 3, 22 and 28 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 3 to 6, 14 to 16, 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,324,691 (Gazdik), Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Gazdik in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,788,800 (Carr), Claim 7 was rejected under § 103(a) over Gazdik in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,405,362 (Shih), Claims 8, 9 and 17 to 20 were rejected under § 103(a) over Gazdik in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,121,967 (Foster), Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under § 103(a) over Gazdik in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,460,076 (Srinivasan), and Claims 10 and 11 were rejected under § 103(a) over Gazdik in view of Foster and Shih. The rejections are respectfully traversed and the Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in light of the following comments.

The present invention downloading of software using a portable information storage medium, such as a compact flash card. According to the invention, the portable medium (i.e., flash card) is inserted into an information processing apparatus. Software information for software to be downloaded is stored on the flash card. For example, an identification information on the software to be downloaded, a location of the software to be downloaded, and user identification of a user wanting to download the software, may be stored on the card. When the card is inserted into a reader of an information processing apparatus (e.g., a PC), the software information stored on the card is read and the PC accesses the location of the software and downloads the software to a storage medium of the PC. Thus, when a user wants to download software, they simply insert the compact flash card into a reader and the software is automatically accessed and downloaded by the

PC, without the user needing to input any additional information about the software to be downloaded.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claim 1 is a portable information storage medium loadable into an information processing device connected to a network, the information processing device adapted to execute software downloaded from the network, the portable information storage medium including a storage area for storing the software information including identification information on the software to be downloaded, location information representing a location on the network at which the software to be downloaded is stored, and secret information on a user who uses the software to be downloaded, wherein the software is downloaded from the network in accordance with the software information stored in the storage area of the portable information storage medium.

Independent Claim 3 is directed to the device that reads the card and downloads the software and thus is an information processing device comprising a portable-information-storage-medium connection unit to which a portable information storage medium storing information on software to be acquired via the network is connected, an information transfer unit adapted to download the software from a server on a network into a storage medium in accordance with the information on the software stored in the portable information storage medium, a software management unit adapted to manage the software downloaded into the storage medium, and an external-storage-medium reading unit adapted to read predetermined information written in the portable information storage medium when the portable information storage medium is connected to said portable-information-storage-medium connecting unit.

Independent Claim 22 is a method claim that substantially corresponds to Claim 3.

Independent Claim 28 is along the lines of Claim 1, but is more specifically directed to A portable information storage medium loadable into an information processing device connected to a network, the information processing device adapted to execute

software downloaded from the network, the portable information storage medium including a storage area for storing the software information including identification information on the software to be downloaded, location information representing a location on the network at which the software to be downloaded is stored, and authentication information to be used for authentication performed before downloading the software from the network, wherein the software is downloaded from the network in accordance with the software information stored in the storage area of the portable information storage medium.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 3, 22 and 28, and in particular, with regard to Claims 1 and 28, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a portable information storage medium storing software information on software to be downloaded via a network, including identification information on the software to be downloaded, location information representing a location on the network at which the software to be downloaded is stored, and secret information on a user who uses the software to be downloaded, or authentication information to be used for authentication performed before downloading the software from the network, wherein the software is downloaded in accordance with the software information stored on the portable information storage medium.

Gazdik discusses eliminating the need for Management Information Systems (MIS) personnel of a company, in updating the software of each end user system, to perform a download, extract, and setup step for each end user system (see column 1, lines 39-64, and column 2, lines 20-25). Referring to column 3, lines 28-67, cited in the Office Action, an Internet download option is provided on each so-called "original distribution media package," and the user can select this Internet download option in order to receive the most recent versions of components belonging to his software suite. In doing so, the user accesses the software developer's site on the Internet and selects which software components the user desires to include in the new distribution media package. Once the new distribution media package has been created, the user can then run the setup

program in order to install the software components that were included in the new media package. Thus, in the “Internet download option” of Gazdik, the user must access the software developer’s site on the Internet and manually select which software components the user desires to include. As such, Gazdik is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a portable information storage medium storing software information on software to be downloaded via a network, wherein the software is downloaded in accordance with the software information stored on the portable information storage medium. Moreover, Gazdik is not seen to disclose or to suggest that any such information stored in a portable information storage medium includes identification information on the software to be downloaded, location information representing a location on the network at which the software to be downloaded is stored, and secret information on a user who uses the software to be downloaded, or authentication information to be used for authentication performed before downloading the software from the network.

Carr is not seen to add anything to overcome the foregoing deficiencies of Gazdik. In this regard, Carr is merely seen to disclose a system for authenticating products using and embedded hash. However, Carr is not seen to disclose or to suggest anything that, when combined with Gazdik, would have resulted in at least the feature of a portable information storage medium storing software information on software to be downloaded via a network, including identification information on the software to be downloaded, location information representing a location on the network at which the software to be downloaded is stored, and secret information on a user who uses the software to be downloaded, or authentication information to be used for authentication performed before downloading the software from the network, wherein the software is downloaded in accordance with the software information stored on the portable information storage medium.

In view of the foregoing, Claims 1 and 28 are believed to be allowable over Gazdik and Carr.

The other applied art, namely Shih, Foster and Srinivasan, have been studied but are not seen to add anything that, when combined with Gazdik and/or Carr, would have resulted in at least the feature of a portable information storage medium storing software information on software to be downloaded via a network, including identification information on the software to be downloaded, location information representing a location on the network at which the software to be downloaded is stored, and secret information on a user who uses the software to be downloaded, or authentication information to be used for authentication performed before downloading the software from the network, wherein the software is downloaded in accordance with the software information stored on the portable information storage medium.

Thus, Claims 1 and 28, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

With regard to Claims 3 and 22, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of downloading software from a server on a network into a storage medium of an information processing apparatus in accordance with information on the software stored in a portable information storage medium, which is read by a reading unit of the information processing apparatus when the portable information storage medium is connected to a portable-information-storage-medium connecting unit of the information processing apparatus.

As discussed above, Gazdik merely provides the ability for a user to access an Internet site and perform various operations to download software. However, Gazdik is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of downloading software from a server on a network into a storage medium of an information processing apparatus in accordance with information on the software stored in a portable information storage medium, which is read by a reading unit of the information processing apparatus when the portable information storage medium is connected to a portable-information-storage-medium connecting unit of the information processing apparatus.

Carr, Shih, Foster and Srinivasan, have all been studied but are not seen to add anything that, when combined with Gazdik in any permissible combination, would have resulted in the feature of downloading software from a server on a network into a storage medium of an information processing apparatus in accordance with information on the software stored in a portable information storage medium, which is read by a reading unit of the information processing apparatus when the portable information storage medium is connected to a portable-information-storage-medium connecting unit of the information processing apparatus.

Thus, Claims 3 and 22, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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